

NEWS



Manufacturers of Emission Controls Association

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MECA Highlights Economic and Public Health Impacts of Mobile Source Emission Control Industry

Washington, D.C. – The Manufacturers of Emission Controls Association (MECA) today released information on the economic and public health impacts of the mobile source emission control industry in the United States. According to data collected by MECA, the estimated U.S. sales of mobile source emission control technologies for on-road and off-road applications in 2005 was \$16 billion. Despite the current state of the economy, these sales figures are expected to grow over the next decade – MECA forecasts U.S. sales to grow to \$26 billion in 2010 and to \$36 billion in 2020 – as the mobile source emission control industry continues to develop, optimize, and commercialize technologies in support of the many on- and off-road air pollution control regulations recently promulgated by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the California Air Resources Board (ARB). In terms of employment, MECA member companies currently account for approximately 65,000 green jobs in the U.S. These emission control-related jobs have been the foundation of the green economic movement in the U.S. that is set to grow rapidly over the next 10 years. In addition, President-elect Barack Obama has committed to create five million new green jobs by investing \$150 billion over the next 10 years in private industry to spur efforts to build a cleaner environment.

Furthermore, the total public health benefits associated with the implementation of these EPA and ARB regulations are estimated to be in the hundreds of billions of dollars. For example, the EPA Tier 2 light-duty regulation and EPA Tier 3 small gasoline engine/marine gasoline engine regulation are expected to provide \$29.3 billion in health benefits annually in 2030. For diesel vehicles and equipment, EPA's 2007/2010 heavy-duty on-road regulation, Tier 4 off-road diesel regulation, and Tier 4 locomotive and marine diesel regulation are projected to provide health benefits on the order of \$181.1 billion in 2030. And, in California, the health benefits associated with ARB's in-use, on-road diesel private fleet regulation are estimated to be \$69 billion cumulative from 2010 to 2025 and \$26 billion cumulative for ARB's in-use, off-road diesel public and private fleet regulation from 2009 to 2030.

“The U.S. motor vehicle emission control program, created when Congress enacted the Clean Air Act Amendments of 1970, has long been recognized as one this century’s great environmental and public health success stories. But the Clean Air Act has had another positive effect – it created the U.S. mobile source emission control industry, which, in turn, has generated tens of thousands of highly skilled jobs,” said MECA’s Executive Director, Joseph Kubsh.

The U.S. mobile source emission control program has rightly earned the reputation as one of the world’s great environmental success stories. Today, emissions of harmful pollutants from new on- and off-road vehicles and equipment are a small fraction of those emitted from those made in the 1960s. As a result, the ambient air we breathe is much cleaner than it was 40 years ago. Notable emission control technologies that have contributed to this success story include catalytic converters for light-duty gasoline-fueled vehicles and diesel particulate filters for diesel vehicles. These emission control technologies have been applied to not only new engines but to in-use engines as well as part of the roll-out of diesel retrofit programs across the U.S. Of equal importance, the technologies and strategies achieving these significant pollution reductions have contributed to a dramatic increase in fuel economy – and, therefore, a reduction in greenhouse gas emissions – by allowing vehicle and engine manufacturers to focus on designing higher efficiency powertrains.

“Advanced mobile source emission control technology has been a cornerstone in our nation’s continuing efforts to clean up the air we breathe. Investment in green industries is critical to the U.S.’s competitiveness in the global economy. This investment provides economic benefits by creating jobs and increasing productivity. The success story of the U.S. mobile source emission control industry has proven that a clean, healthy environment and economic growth are not mutually exclusive,” said Kubsh.

Founded in 1976, MECA is a national association of companies that manufacture a variety of mobile source emission control equipment for automobiles, trucks, buses, and off-road vehicles and engines, as well as stationary internal combustion engines. For more information on exhaust emission control technology, please visit MECA’s web site at: www.meca.org.

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